IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1 and 98 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A network element ~~between a first internet protocol based network and a second external packet data network~~, ~~said network element~~ comprising:

a first interface configured to communicate with ~~said~~ a first internet protocol based network using an internet protocol to receive signals from and send signals to the first network, said first internet protocol based network being a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities, said first interface being configured such that internet protocol traffic intended for a wireless user equipment within said first internet protocol based network from another user equipment within said first network can occur without any signaling occurring externally of said first network; and

a second interface configured to communicate with ~~said~~ a second external packet data network via an internet protocol based connection to receive signals from and send signals to the second packet data network, said wireless user equipment being usable with said second network,

wherein the network element is located between the first internet protocol based network and the second external packet data network, and

wherein said network element is configured to determine whether ~~said~~ a particular wireless user equipment is a subscriber of the first network and when said particular wireless user equipment is not a subscriber of the first network to make a query to a home

location register in said second network ~~when said user equipment is not a subscriber of the first network~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 1, wherein said first interface is configured to use a tunneling protocol to communicate with the first internet protocol based network.

3. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 2, wherein said tunneling protocol is one of layer two tunneling protocol and general packet radio service tunneling protocol.

4. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 1, wherein said second packet data network is a general packet radio service network and said network element incorporates serving general packet radio service support node and gateway general packet radio service support node functionality.

5. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 1, wherein said second interface includes at least one of the following layers in a protocol stack of the second interface: mobile application part, transaction capabilities application part, user datagram protocol, or internet protocol.

6. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 1, wherein said second interface is configured to communicate with a gateway element of said second packet data network.

7. (Previously Presented) The network element of claim 1, wherein the first interface uses a lightweight directory access protocol to communicate with at least one element of said first internet protocol based network.

8. (Previously Presented) A communications system comprising a first internet protocol based network and a second packet data network, said first and second networks being connected by the network element of claim 1.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said second packet data network is connected to said network element by a border gateway.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said border gateway and said network element are connected by a tunnel.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein said second packet data network is connected to said network element by a virtual private network.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein at least one of said first and second networks comprises a wireless communication part.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the wireless communication part is configured to use the global system for mobile communication standard.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein said second packet data network is a general packet radio service network.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said first internet protocol based network is a wireless intranet office network.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said first internet protocol based network comprises a register for storing information relating to users in said first internet protocol based network, said register being configured to be connected to said network element.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said register complies with a lightweight directory access protocol.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said second packet data network comprises a register for storing information relating to users in the first internet protocol based network, said register being accessible by said network element.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said register is configured to store information relating to user configurations.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein a signaling gateway is provided in said second packet data network to modify signals sent to and from said first internet protocol based network to provide compatibility with said second packet data network and vice versa.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the cellular communications terminal is a dual mode terminal configured to permit a user to use a wireless local area network mode in the first internet protocol based network and a general packet radio service mode in the second packet data network.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said network element is part of said first internet protocol based network.

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98. (Currently Amended) A network element ~~between a first internet protocol based network and a second external packet data network~~, ~~said element~~ comprising:

first interface means for communicating with ~~said~~ a first internet protocol based network using an internet protocol to receive signals from and send signals to the first network, said first internet protocol based network being a private computer based network comprising wireless capabilities, said interface being configured such that internet protocol traffic intended for a wireless user equipment within said first internet protocol based network from another user equipment within said first network can occur without any signaling occurring externally of said first network; and

second interface means for communicating with ~~said~~ a second external packet data network via an internet protocol based connection to receive signals from and send signals to the second packet data network, said wireless user equipment being usable with said second network,

wherein the network element is located between the first internet protocol based network and the second external packet data network, and

wherein said network element comprises means for determining whether ~~said~~ a particular wireless user equipment is a subscriber of the first network and means for making a query to a home location register in said second network when said particular wireless user equipment is not a subscriber of the first network.